



1998 Drinking Water Quality Report

RRA - HOWARDWICK WATER SYSTEM

Red River Authority of Texas

900 8th Street, Suite 520

Wichita Falls, Texas 76301

940/723-8697

OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has assessed our system and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the attached tables. If your water meets federal standards there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices.

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800/426-4791).

En Espanol

Este report incluye la informacion importante sobre su agua beber. A obtener una copia de esta informacion o traducir en Espanol, llamar

Where do we get our drinking water?

The RRA-Howardwick Water System utilizes Ground water from the Ogallala aquifer. The ground water is produced through Authority owned wells located in Donley County, Texas. The TNRCC will be reviewing all of Texas' drinking water sources. The source water assessment process will be completed in three years.

ALL Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

Drinking water, **including bottled water**, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800/426-4791).

Public Participation Opportunities

The Authority's Board of Directors regularly meets on the third Wednesday of January, April, July and September of each year. Specific times and locations of these and/or any special meetings can be obtained by contacting the Authority at 940/723-8697.

For more information about the water quality of your water system, public participation programs, water conservation programs and/or general operations policies, call 940/723-8697 or e-mail the Authority at: info@rra.dst.tx.us. For service request or reporting leaks after normal business hours, contact your District Manager, Mr. Walt Rice at 806/874-3801 or Mr. John Green at 806/447-2846.

System Information

The Red River Authority of Texas owns and operates 29 registered public water supply systems through its Utility Division. The Utility Division maintains over 2,150 miles of transmission lines, two surface water treatment plants, 65 pumping facilities and serves approximately 10,000 customers residing in a 15 county area of the Red River Basin. The Utility Division is subdivided into geographical districts for proper management, maintenance and financial accounting of individual systems.

The RRA-Howardwick Water System is one of the water systems operated by the Utility Division's District 18. In 1998, the system served 403 active connections with an average water use of 297 gallons per day per connection. The primary use of the water was seasonal and rural domestic. No major Capital Improvement items were scheduled for 1998.

The Authority is currently upgrading the Utility Division's Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. Information on the plan and its possible effects on the RRA-Howardwick Water System will be provided after it is finalized.

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) -

The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

MFL - million fibers per liter

pci/l - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

About The Attached Table

U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents. Nine constituents were detected in your water. The attached table contains all of the chemical constituents which have been found in your drinking water.

Inorganics

Year	Constituent	Highest Level at Any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1998	Arsenic	4.5	0.0000-4.5000	50	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
1998	Barium	0.049	0.0190-0.0490	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
1995	Chromium	11	0.0000-11.0000	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits;
1998	Fluoride	0.9	0.3000-0.9000	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
1995	Nitrate	6.54	5.5100-6.5400	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
1998	Selenium	24.2	12.4000-24.2000	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
1994	Gross alpha adjusted	17	17.0000-17.0000	17	0	pci/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
1994	Gross beta emitters	9.6	9.6000-9.6000	50	0	pci/l	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.

Organics

Year	Constituent	Highest Average of Any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1998-1998	Xylenes	0.0004	0000-0.00	10	10	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

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Lead and Copper

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1996	Copper	0.1320	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
1996	Lead	2.000	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate

(Above 5 mg/l, but below the MCL)

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advise from your health care provider.